

The Hongkong Telegraph.

No. 247.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1882.

FIVE DOLLARS
PER QUARTER.

For Sale.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

CHRISTMAS CARDS.

NOW ON VIEW.

(FOR THE XMAS. MAIL, LEAVING HONGKONG
20TH NOVEMBER.)

A VERY CHOICE ASSORTMENT

OF

CHRISTMAS, NEW YEAR,

BIRTHDAY CARDS.

Selected in the Best Houses of
LONDON AND NEW YORK.

In the most Lovely Shades and Tints, and for
Design and Artistic Finish Unequalled by
any yet Shown.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Hongkong, 30th October, 1882. [296]

Insurances.

NOTICE.

THE MAN ON INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

(CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED.....\$1,000,000.)
The above Company is prepared to accept
MARINE RISKS AT CURRENT RATES ON GOODS,
&c. Policies granted to all Parts of the world
payable at any of its Agencies.

WOO LIN YUEN
Secretary.

HEAD OFFICE,
No. 2, QUEEN'S ROAD WEST.

Hongkong, 1st February, 1882. [81]

YANGTSE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION.

CAPITAL (Fully Paid-up).....Tls. 420,000.00
PERMANENT RESERVE.....Tls. 230,000.00
SPECIAL RESERVE FUND.....Tls. 290,553.95
TOTAL CAPITAL AND
ACCUMULATIONS, 8th
May, 1882.....Tls. 940,553.95

DIRECTORS.

H. DE C. FORBES, Esq., Chairman.
J. H. PINCKVOSS, Esq. | W. M. MEYER, Esq.
A. J. M. INVERARITY, Esq. | G. H. WHEELER, Esq.

HEAD OFFICE—SHANGHAI.

Messrs. RUSSELL & Co., Secretaries.

LONDON BRANCH.

Messrs. BARKING BROTHERS & Co.,
Bankers.

RICHARD BLACKWELL, Esq., Agent,
68 and 69, Cornhill, E.C.

POLICIES granted on MARINE RISKS to all
parts of the World.
Subject to a charge of 12 per cent. for Interest
on Shareholders' Capital, all the PROFITS of the
UNDERWRITING BUSINESS are annually dis-
tributed among all Contributors of Business (whether
Shareholders or not) in proportion to the
premium paid by them.

RUSSELL & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 13th May, 1882. [53]

GENERAL NOTICE.

THE ON TAI INSURANCE COMPANY, (LIMITED.)

CAPITAL TAELS 600,000, EQUAL \$833,333.33.
RESERVE FUND.....\$70,858.27.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

LEE SING, Esq.,.....LEE YAT LAU, Esq.,
LO YEOK MOON, Esq.,.....CHU CHIK NUNG, Esq.

MANAGER—HO AMEI.

MARINE RISKS ON GOODS, &c., taken at
CURRENT RATES to all parts of the world.

HEAD OFFICE, 8 & 9, PRAYA WEST.

Hongkong, 1st September, 1882. [601]

THE Undersigned have been appointed
AGENTS to the NEW YORK BOARD
OF UNDERWRITERS.

ARNHOLD, KARBERG & CO.

Hongkong, 15th June, 1881.

RECORD OF AMERICAN AND FOREIGN SHIPPING.

Agents,

ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co.

Hongkong, 15th June, 1881. [457]

Intimations.

G. FALCONER & CO.

WATCH AND CHRONOMETER
MANUFACTURERS

AND
JEWELLERS.

NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS,
CHARTS AND BOOKS.

No. 46, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL. [434]

INTERNATIONAL NOVELTY COMPANY.

KOOLANGSOO, AMOY, (CHINA)

IMPORTERS OF EUROPEAN
AND
AMERICAN NOVELTIES.

EMILE FRANKUCHEN,
Manager.

Amoy, 22nd August, 1882. [527]

Auctions.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions
from Messrs. BIRLEY & Co., Agents for the
BRITISH NORTH BORNEO Co., to Sell by Public
Auction,

TO-MORROW,

the 9th November, 1882, at Noon,—
AT THE
"SHANG-CHONG" TIMBER YARD,
YOW-MA-TEE.

595 Logs of BORNEO HARDWOOD.
25 Pieces of BORNEO PAH-MAH PLANKS.
2 Pieces of BORNEO BILION, PAU-LAU-
KAK.

Also,

A Quantity of FIREWOOD (Round and Split
HARDWOOD).

A Steam Launch will leave Peddar's Wharf
at 11.45 A.M.

For further Particulars, apply to
HUGHES & LEGGE,
Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 4th November, 1882. [732]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

VALUABLE PROPERTY,
IN JERVOIS STREET & QUEEN'S ROAD
CENTRAL.

THE Undersigned will Sell by Public Auction,
on WEDNESDAY,

the 15th day of November, 1882, at THREE P.M.,
on the Premises,

BY ORDER OF THE MORTGAGEES.

1ST LOT.—ONE HOUSE in Jervois Street, No.

68, and ONE HOUSE in Queen's Road

Central, No. 201, measuring North 15 feet,

South 17 feet, East 55 feet, West 64 feet or

885 square feet. Yearly Crown Rent

£2.16.2. Registered as INLAND LOT No.

117, for 999 years from the 26th June, 1843.

2ND LOT.—ONE HOUSE in Jervois Street, No.

70, and ONE HOUSE in Queen's Road

Central, No. 203, measuring on the North

15 feet, South 17 feet, East 64 feet, West 72

feet. Yearly Crown Rent £3.3.6. Registered as

INLAND LOT 117A, for 999 years from the

10th September, 1843.

3RD LOT.—ONE HOUSE in Jervois Street, No.

72, and ONE HOUSE in Queen's Road

Central, No. 205, measuring on the North

side 15 feet, South 16 feet, East 62 feet,

West 72 feet, or 1,100 square feet. Yearly

Crown Rent £3.11.7, for 999 years from the

26th June, 1843.

For Further Particulars and Conditions of Sale,
apply to

J. M. GUEDES,
Auctioneer.

Hongkong, 23rd October, 1882. [710]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions
from the MORTGAGEES to Sell by Public
Auction, on

SATURDAY,

the 18th day of November, 1882, at THREE P.M.

ALL that PIECE or PARCEL of GROUND

Registered in the Land Office as INLAND

LOT No. 344, measuring on the North side

54 feet, South and East 45 feet, North and

East 66 feet, South and West 96 feet.

Together with the 2 HOUSES known as

Nos. 29 and 31 in Mosque Street.

For Particulars, apply to

J. M. GUEDES,
Auctioneer.

Hongkong, 1st November, 1882. [725]

For Sale.

TO SPORTSMEN.

FOR SALE AT LESS THAN COST.

OWING TO OWNER LEAVING
THE COLONY.

2 LIGHT RACING SADDLES complete.

RACING WHIPS with Silver Mounts.

1 Set of CAPE HARNESS with Pole

(Breast Plates).

1 Set of SINGLE HARNESS.

The above, which are ALL NEW, may be

seen at the "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH"
OFFICE and will be sold a BARGAIN.

Hongkong, 2nd November, 1882. [726]

FOR SALE.

THE American Steamer

"N G E B O R G,"

489 Tons Register, Classed 3/4 L. I. L. in Veritas,
and Built at Gothenburg in 1873.

For Particulars, apply to

RUSSELL & Co.

Hongkong, 30th September, 1882. [636]

FOR SALE.

A THURSTON'S ENGLISH BILLIARD

TABLE (full size) with CUES, RACKS,
PYRAMID BALLS, and COMPLETE FITTINGS. A

Reasonable Price will be taken.

Apply for Particulars to

A. B. C.,
Office of Hongkong Telegraph.

Hongkong, 18th September, 1882. [637]

FOR SALE.

G. H. MUMM & Co.'s CHAMPAGNE.

QUARTS.....\$22 per Case.

Apply to

MELCHERS & Co.

Hongkong, 2nd March, 1882. [132]

C. L. THEVENIN.

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANT.

HONGKONG HOTEL BUILDINGS.

HAS FOR SALE.

A FINE ASSORTMENT OF WHITE AND RED

BURGUNDIES

AT MODERATE PRICES.

A CHAMPAGNE TILLAGE.....\$8.00 per dozen.

Assorted LIQUEURS of the best quality.

FRENCH BOOTS AND SHOES, PER-
FUMERY, &c., &c.

Hongkong, 2nd October, 1882. [664]

Intimations.

"NOVELTY STORE."

MARINE HOUSE, QUEEN'S ROAD.

TO Clear Old Stock, the following are offered for a short period at greatly reduced rates —

TWO SHILLING NOVELS

OUIDA, BESANT AND RICE, PAYN, COLLINS, & C.

FIFTY CENTS EACH.

T A U C H N I T Z N O V E L S

THIRTY CENTS EACH.

F R E N C H N O V E L S

Also,

EMINENT NOVELLISTS,

AND

BOUND VOLUMES OF ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS AND PUNCH FROM 1861 TO 1878,

AT VERY CHEAP PRICES.

S. MEYERS,
Manager.

Hongkong, 9th October, 1882. [661]

SAYLE & CO.'S SHOWROOMS.

SAYLE & CO.

WE HAVE PLEASURE IN ANNOUNCING A SPECIAL SHOW

OF

FANCY GOODS SUITABLE FOR PRESENTS, ON AND AFTER

T O M O R R O W T U E S D A Y .

THE 24TH OCTOBER, 1882.

CLOCKS, DRESSING CASES.

WRITING DESKS AND CABINETS.

INK STANDS AND BLOTTERS.

ORNAMENTAL PLUSH BRACKETS.

ILLUMINATED ALBUMS.

WHATNOT ORNAMENTS.

CHRISTMAS CARDS, &c., &c.

Also ONE CASE OF TOYS.

The whole comprise one of the best selections ever shown in China and are marked at prices which

must command an early sale.

ALL NEW GOODS.

A LIBERAL DISCOUNT FOR CASH.

S A Y L E & C O .

VICTORIA EXCHANGE, HONGKONG.

Hongkong, 23rd October, 1882. [659]

J. ULLMANN & CO.

42, QUEEN'S ROAD.

HAVE ALWAYS ON HAND A LARGE ASSORTMENT

OF

GOLD AND SILVER WATCHES AND CHRONOMETERS, CLOCKS OF ALL KINDS,

BAROMETERS, THERMOMETERS, ANEROIDS, SPECTACLES, EYE-GLASSES, &c.

BY THE BEST MAKERS, AND AT LOW PRICES.

GENTLEMEN'S PARISIAN MADE SHIRTS, SCARVES, AND COLLARS

IN THE NEWEST STYLES.

F R E N C H B O O T S A N D S H O E S

OF BEST QUALITY.

MEERSCHAUM PIPES, CIGAR CASES AND HOLDERS,

ALBUMS, INKSTANDS, POCKET-BOOKS.

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF STATIONERY.

CROCKERY WARE, TEA AND COFFEE SETS.

RIFLES, FOWLING PIECES, AND REVOLVERS.

A CHOICE SELECTION OF PINAUD'S BEST PERFUMERY.

&c., &c., &c.

Hongkong, 2nd October, 1882. [660]

THE CHEAPEST HOUSE IN THE EAST.

FOR BOOKS, STATIONERY, MUSIC AND MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, FANCY GOODS,

ARTISTS MATERIALS, &c., &c., &c.

W. BREWER.

No. 15, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

ALL the Newest Books in every Department of Literature. Every variety of Stationery,

including Mercantile and Fancy Note and Letter Papers of every description;

Visiting, Menu and Programme Cards in great variety.

Account Books, Ledgers, Cash Books, &c., &c., of European Manufacture.

All the Newest Music of the day by the most Popular Composers.

Sole Agents for Kirkman's celebrated Pianos, Concertinas, Accordions, and Autophones.

Every description of Fancy Goods and Smoker's Sundries.

A fine assortment of Christmas Cards and Motives. Letts and Smith's Diaries for 1883.

Printing and Bookbinding in all their Branches.

Price Lists of Magazines and Newspapers may be had on application.

The Discount System will be introduced as far as practicable in the East, and 10 per cent. will be

ALLOWED OFF ALL GOODS FOR CASH.

Hongkong, 19th October, 1882. [703]

To be Let.

TO LET.

TWO SPACIOUS ROOMS (UNFURNISHED),

PEDDAR'S HILL.

Apply to

A. B.,
Office of this Paper.

Hongkong, 16th October, 1882. [698]

TO LET.

THE 1ST STOREY of the 3RD HOUSE

known as the "BLUE BUILDINGS,"

PRAYA EAST. With immediate possession.

J. M. GUEDES.

Hongkong, 26th September, 1882. [649]

TO LET.

No. 4, OLD BAILEY STREET.

No. 6, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,

late occupied by PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP

COMPANY.

No. 8, SEYMOUR TERRACE.

No. 9, SEYMOUR TERRACE.

Apply to

DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.

Hongkong, 1st November, 1882. [174]

TO LET.

(WITH IMMEDIATE POSSESSION.)

A LARGE OFFICE

OR

SUITE OF OFFICES ON THE FIRST FLOOR

OF THE PREMISES OCCUPIED BY

KELLY & WALSH.

Hongkong, 2nd October, 1882. [662]

To be Let.

TO LET.

Intimations.

GARDEN SEEDS.

SEASON 1882-3.

A. S. WATSON & CO.

HAVE LATELY RECEIVED

AND

OPENED

OUT

THEIR NEW SEASON'S

SUPPLY OF

VEGETABLE AND FLOWER SEEDS.

CATALOGUES SUPPLIED ON APPLICATION.

VEGETABLE PARCEL OF 50 PACKETS,

PRICE \$7.50.

FLOWER PARCEL, PRICE \$10.00.

FLOWER PARCEL HALF SIZE, PRICE, \$5.00.

SINGLE PACKETS AT PRICES

AS PER LIST.

A. S. WATSON & Co.,

HONGKONG DISPENSARY,

HONGKONG. [43]

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

It is requested that all communications relating to Subscriptions, Advertisements, &c., be addressed to the "Manager, Hongkong Telegraph" and not to the Editor.

Letters on Editorial matters to be sent to "The Editor" and not to individual members of the staff.

Communications intended for publication must be accompanied by the name and address of the writers, not necessarily for publication; but as evidence of good faith.

Whilst the columns of the Hongkong Telegraph will always be open for the fair discussion by correspondents of all questions affecting public interests, it must be distinctly understood that the Editor does not in any way hold himself responsible for opinions thus expressed.

TO ADVERTISERS.

Advertisers are requested to forward all notices intended for insertion in that day's issue not later than THREE O'CLOCK so as not to retard the early publication of the paper.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Arrangements have been made to publish The Hongkong Telegraph daily at 4 P.M. Subscribers in the central districts will not receive their copies before FIVE O'CLOCK will oblige by at once communicating with the Manager.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1882.

NEITHER as a literary production nor as a useful contribution to the discussion which has recently taken place in this Colony on the question of shipping disasters along the China coast, caused by the unsatisfactory and imperfect publicity given to official survey reports, can the letter written by Lieutenant ALFRED CARPENTER, of H.M.S. *Albatross*, the officer in charge of the China Survey, and reproduced in another column, be regarded as of any practical value. We are unable, after a careful perusal of the complaints, views and suggestions embodied in Mr. CARPENTER'S manifesto, to see that they are at all likely to prove of the slightest utility to the commercial and general interests involved in what is certainly a public question of the very highest importance. No doubt, this experienced nautical surveyor's intentions were admirable; but his discretion as an officer of the British Navy in writing on his own responsibility to the public press, and the appositeness of what we may consider his professional ideas and opinions, are open to grave question. Probably Lieutenant CARPENTER believes that every noble activity makes room for itself, and that the cause for which he desires to appear as the special advocate—a cause which has for its main object the saving of life and the preservation of valuable property—justifies the somewhat irregular means he has adopted of airing his opinions. We endorse the opinion of Emerson that a great mind is a good sailor, as a great heart is; and as Lieutenant CARPENTER'S labors on the coasts of China for the long period of ten years speak trumpet-tongued as to his personal fitness for the responsible duties he has been deputed by Her Majesty's Government to fulfil, however much we may doubt his discretion in the present instance, and question the value of his opinions, we are nevertheless disposed in our heart of hearts to applaud a British officer who has the courage to ignore routine and red tape, and to act up to the well-known principle, which has been universally recognised from the days of Sophocles up to the present time, that heaven never helps the men who are afraid to act.

Lieutenant CARPENTER, whose vessel has been on the Korean coasts for some time past, had been perusing the articles which appeared in our local contemporaries on the loss of the steamship *Hongkong*—on what he terms the Boswell Rock near Long Yit Island—and as the result of his

meditations on these acknowledged grossly imperfect and misleading statements, an opinion he had previously formed to the effect that both captains and owners of steam vessels in the East are habitually "criminally careless," appears to have been amply confirmed to his own satisfaction. It is charitable to believe that when Lieutenant CARPENTER committed himself to this sweeping charge against the captains and owners who represent our local shipping interests—the men to whose energy, enterprise, skill and courage the commercial prosperity of Hongkong and China is entirely due—he was acting under some extraordinary mental hallucination, produced by the inaccurate rubbish respecting the loss of the *Hongkong* which he found in the *Daily Press* and *China Mail*. Under no possible circumstances could this, or any, officer of the British navy be justified in applying such offensive language to our influential commercial representatives, and more especially to captains of the mercantile marine, whose positions, characters, reputations, and seafaring experiences and abilities are at least fully equal to his own. But when not the slightest reason exists for such sweeping accusations, it is difficult to understand on what grounds Lieutenant CARPENTER will attempt to defend and justify his wholesale censure on a powerful body of men, who are scarcely likely to remain quiescent under such grave charges. Surely the commander of the *Albatross* could not have been aware that the Marine Court of Inquiry had most honorably acquitted the master and officers of the *Hongkong*, justifying their conduct in every particular! Had there been anything "criminally careless" in the errors which led to the loss of the steamer, surely a Hongkong Marine Court, composed of experienced navigators, and presided over by the Harbour Master, Captain H. G. THOMSON, R.N., would not have arrived at the decision it eventually did, after a prolonged and searching investigation into the whole of the circumstances of the case! Lieutenant CARPENTER'S expression of opinion is indirectly a severe censure on the Members of the Marine Court, an act which, from an officer wearing Her Majesty's uniform, is peculiarly reprehensible. It will be remembered that we felt it our duty to differ considerably from the finding of the Court on several points, especially the attempt to attach a certain amount of blame for the loss of the steamer on the local chart vendors, censuring, what we deemed, a most unwarrantable repudiation of what appeared to us to be the responsibilities of our local government in no uncertain terms. But our criticisms were justified, as we owe a duty to the public, whilst Mr. CARPENTER'S responsibilities begin and end with the Admiralty.

It appears to be the opinion of the Naval officer in charge of the China Survey that captains of merchant vessels and the public press are under some sort of imaginary obligation to immediately furnish him with the most minute details regarding any newly discovered rocks; and he querulously complains that the newspaper reports referring to the loss of the *Europe* contained only the vague information that the vessel struck somewhere about four miles from Woga Island. Reverse this order of things and Lieutenant CARPENTER would have some show of reason on his side. Public newspapers, although naturally desirous of imparting all information of an important or interesting character to their clients the public, have really no further responsibility in the matter. They are not specially retained by the Admiralty to keep the Survey Officer or anybody else posted up in unofficial hydrographic discoveries.

What we complain of is, that the dangers discovered by the paid servants of the country are not sufficiently advertised. But for the miserable parsimony of the local government—which evidently considers it does everything that is requisite by publishing its most important announcements in the *Government Gazette*, a publication which but few persons read—the steamship *Hongkong* would, in all human probability, be afloat at the present moment. Lieutenant CARPENTER'S is grossly in error in asserting that "as a rule other papers copy such notices from the *Gazette* and from one another." They never do anything of the kind unless such notices are paid for as advertisements; and are perfectly justified in adopting this policy. The Imperial Chinese Maritime Customs department sets an example which the Hongkong Government would do well to follow. Their notices regarding the lights, beacons, buoys, &c., along the Chinese coasts are so extensively advertised in the newspapers that they become common property; and had Lieutenant CARPENTER'S surveys and those of his predecessors been given similar publicity, the *Hongkong*, and other steamers we could name, would never have been lost.

We do not propose dealing with the other portions of Lieutenant CARPENTER'S letter, as they are only of minor importance, and may be taken for whatever

those affected by his hints and suggestions consider they are actually worth. It would, no doubt, assist the surveyors if all hydrographic information were forwarded to the surveying vessel immediately after discovery; but this is more the duty of the government than of private firms or individuals. Lieutenant CARPENTER, and those who think with him, should clearly understand that, whatever may be the interests of ship owners, ship captains, and insurance companies in regard to surveys and hydrographic discoveries, these respective bodies very properly decline to be saddled with responsibilities which belong to the British Government.

TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, November 6th.

EGYPTIAN AFFAIRS.

The Premier, in reply to a question in the House of Commons, said that Egypt would share the cost of the occupation subsequent to the suppression of the revolt. No fresh vote of credit will be asked for during the present session.

THE INSURRECTION IN THE SOUDAN.

The insurrection in the Soudan is extending. An Egyptian expedition is being prepared, three British officers accompanying it.

7th November.

EGYPT.

The President of the Council of Ministers has replied that as the English Comptroller-General holds aloof from the sittings of the Council, it is inexpedient to admit the French Comptroller-General.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

A REGULAR Lodge of the United Service, No. 1341, will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Zetland Street, this evening, the 8th instant, at 7.30 for 8 p.m. precisely.

A REGULAR Lodge of St. John's, No. 618, S.C., will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Zetland Street, on Monday evening next, the 13th instant, at 8 for 8.30 p.m. precisely.

THE *Peter der Grosse* comes out of Kowloon Dock to-night, the *Mannheim* filling the vacancy. The *Danube* will undock from the Cosmopolitan Dock to-night, and the *Ella S. Thayer* will take her place.

THE Panama correspondents of the *New York World* and *New York Herald* report that negotiations are in progress for the restoration of Señor Pierola to the presidency of Peru with the assistance of Chili.

A FRENCH doctor has recently written a work on "Diseases of Memory." Commenting on this publication the *Boston Globe* observes that a large book could be written on the same subject, with a profusion of illustrations from the lives of politicians before and after they get into office.

SOME time ago 100 officers were received in audience by the Czar on their promotion. In place of the usual compliments, His Majesty said:—"I trust you know how to fight voluntarily for your country, and to defend the honour of Russia." This speech was received with frantic cheering.

"Yes," said the gentleman who wanted to join the crack volunteer regiment, "I went all through the war, and have the documents to show it first-class record. I'm six feet and one inch high, sound as a nut, know the manual of arms, and am well posted on military tactics." "Yes," said the commandant, "those qualifications are no objection, but what waltz-step do you dance?"

In addition to the armed merchant cruisers which are ordered to be fitted out for service in the East Indies and China; the British naval authorities have, it is stated, decided upon the arming of six other vessels for the Australian Station. The six sets of fittings necessary to make them suitable for the new service they will enter upon are ordered to be prepared immediately at Chatham Dockyard.

HAS the Hongkong Choral Society—like the Amateur Dramatic Club—become practically defunct, or why have no signs of vitality lately been exhibited by the executive and members? In past times the Society was hard at work by the beginning of November, but this year, so far, nothing has been done. We have not so many enjoyable local amusements during the winter months, that we can afford to lose the Society that has introduced to Hongkong such marvellous masterpieces as "Trial by Jury," "H.M.S. Pinafore," "The Sorcerer," and "The Pirates of Penzance."

THE Royal Italian Opera Company arrived from Amoy by the steamship *Diamante* this morning, and as their arrangements will fit in, they have decided to give two grand operatic representations in the Theatre Royal, City Hall, prior to their departure for Shanghai. They will open to-morrow night with Verdi's ever popular "Il Trovatore," and on Saturday will produce Marchetti's charming opera "Ruy Blas." We have no doubt that on both occasions these talented artists will be honored with crowded houses. A plan of the Theatre is now on view at Messrs. Kelly and Walsh's, where seats may be booked.

WE (Fochow Herald) learn, that the Methodist Mission has been strengthened by the long needed and expected re-inforcements in the persons of Rev. G. B. Swyth and J. L. Taylor, M.D., and wife. Their principal work will be in connection with the Anglo-Chinese College. The former will probably be placed in charge as soon as he becomes sufficiently familiar with the native Local Dialect, while Dr. Taylor is to devote himself to the work of organizing a medical department in the College as soon as feasible. They are both young and promising, and we may promise for them a bright future of usefulness in their Departments of missionary labor.

It is expected that the book *par excellence* of the new publishing season will be a history of English criminal law by Sir James Fitzjames Stephen. The author will publish at the same time the second part of his Digest of the Criminal Law—that dealing with procedure in indictable offences. In this he is being assisted by Mr. Herbert Stephen.

Two paragraphs in an English medical journal are printed so near each other that readers are apt to compare them. They read as follows: "The Royal Hospital for Incurables, Putney, has received a donation of £30 from the Queen." "An anonymous benefactor has given £500 to the Yeovil District Hospital." Comment would be superfluous.

It is reported in home papers that the Russian Minister of War, having found the grant of prizes for horse-racing ineffectual in inducing military officers to perfect themselves in riding, decided to render the races at the camp of Krasno Selo of a compulsory character. These came off a few weeks ago, and resulted in five officers being more or less injured, a dozen horses spoilt, and one horse killed on the spot. Among the winners was a son of the present Minister of the Interior.

WE are afraid that the politeness towards ladies which in olden times was such a distinguishing characteristic of our *jeunesse dorée*, has become a thing of the past. The following is an example of how a certain set of men sacrifice courtesy and the true instincts of a gentleman to obtain a reputation for what the Americans term "smartness."—"I should so like to have a coin dated the year of my birth," said a maiden lady of uncertain age to a highly bred male acquaintance the other day. "Do you think you could get one for me?" "I am afraid not," he replied. "These very old coins are only to be found in valuable collections." And yet he cannot see why, when he met the lady the next day, she didn't know him.

THE people of the county of Santa Barbara have, says the *San Francisco Morning Call* of the 19th ulto, incurred the displeasure of several Chinese laundry firms, and are kindly informed that unless the whites behave better in the future the Chinese will leave them to their fate. It appears that the City Marshal has several times warned the Chinese to remove without the city limits. The celestials, in their estimation, had ceased to be a virtue, when they boldly assumed the aggressive. Their defiant proposition is, that unless they are permitted to remain undisturbed where they are, they will do no more washing for the people of Santa Barbara. California will watch with some interest the course the people of the threatened city will pursue in this trying emergency. It is quite possible that the Chinese have selected the people of that city as the subject of an experiment. If Santa Barbara backs down under this threat of the Chinese to leave them to cleanse their own soiled linen, the same course may possibly be adopted elsewhere. It behoves the residents of that city, therefore, to stand firm. The eyes of the State are upon them. They are called upon to solve the problem whether a Californian can get along without the Chinese.

ACCORDING to the *Edinburgh Daily Review* a local link between Robert Burns and Sir Walter Scott is about to disappear. The two great Scottish poets met only once. Their meeting was in the house of Principal Ferguson, the historian of the Roman Republic, and a leading spirit of the literati of Edinburgh, in his day. The house was a large and handsome mansion at the south end of the Seeloches, with coachhouse and well-stocked fruit and flower garden attached. The dining and drawing room floor were approached by a double outside staircase of broad steps, guarded by a massive balustrade. Until lately the house remained the finest in the neighbourhood. But a few years ago the garden ground was fenced for building purposes, and last year the house itself, with its three flats, was subdivided into workmen's houses. The west gable with the drawing-room window still remain; but now this gable is to be closed in by a tenement rising beside it, and in a short time the place where Burns and Scott met may be forgotten. In the meantime it will interest our Edinburgh readers and others to be reminded of Sir Walter's account of his interview with his "elder brother of the Muses." Writing to Lockhart, he says: "As for Burns, I may truly say, 'Virgilum vidi tantum.' I was a lad of fifteen in 1786-7, when he came first to Edinburgh, but I felt enough to be much interested in his poetry, and would have given the world to know him; but I had very little acquaintance with any literary people, and still less with the gentry of the west country, the two sets whom he much frequented. Mr. Thomas Grierson was at that time a clerk of my father's. He knew Burns, and promised to ask him to his lodgings to dinner, but had no opportunity to keep his word, otherwise I might have seen more of this distinguished man. As it was, I saw him one day at the late venerable Professor Ferguson's, where there were several gentlemen of literary reputation, among whom I remember the celebrated Mr. Dugald Stewart. Of course, we youngsters sat silent, looked, and listened. The only thing I remember which was memorable in Burns's manner was the effect produced upon him by a print of Bunbury's representing a soldier lying dead on the snow, his dog sitting in misery on one side, on the other his widow, with a child in her arms. These lines were written beneath—

"Cold on Canadian hills we mingled pale;
Perhaps that parent wept her soldier's fall;
Here of her babe, her eye dissolved in dew,
The big drops mingling with the milk he drew,
Gave life and promise of his future years,
The child of misery bapized in tears."

Burns seemed much affected by the print, or rather the ideas which it suggested to his mind. He actually shed tears. He asked from whom the lines were, and it chanced that nobody but myself remembered that they occur in a half-forgotten poem of Langhorne's, called by the unpromising title of "The Justice of Peace." I whispered my information to a friend present, who mentioned it to Burns, who rewarded me with a look and a word, which though of mere civility, I then received, and still recollect with very great pleasure.

CONTRARY to our expectations, the French mail brought very little further news about the Comet. *Nature* of September 28th is silent on the subject. The *Athenaeum* of the 30th states that the comet seen by Mr. Common close to the sun on the 17th September, and supposed to be the same that was discovered by M. Cruls at Rio de Janeiro on the 12th September, was noticed at Nice on the 18th by M. Thollon, its position being then three degrees west of the sun, and its spectrum continuous, with bright sodium lines. On the 24th it was observed at Vienna, in Right Ascension 11 hours, and South Declination 3 deg.; and two days later it was also seen at Paris. It would seem that the weather in England must have been unfavourable for morning observations subsequently to Mr. Common's discovery, but we may fairly expect much fuller details by the end of the week.

WE hasten to correct an error which seems to have crept into our report of the suicide of the unfortunate man Gray at the Temperance Hall yesterday. It was stated to our reporter that Gray possessed at the time of his death, "several hundreds of dollars which he had deposited at the Stag Hotel" and this duly appeared in the report. This rumour, for as such we published it, appears to be totally incorrect. The plain facts are these:—When Gray came down from Swatow in the *Albatross* he called on Mr. Snelling at the Stag Hotel—Mr. Snelling had known Gray for several years when the latter was on board the American gunboat *Alert*—and asked him to take care of \$80 for him. This Mr. Snelling agreed to do in the presence of a gentleman very well known in the Colony, and there and then had a receipt written out for the money, which receipt was handed to Gray. A few days afterwards Gray applied to Mr. Snelling for \$30 as he had some payments to make at the Temperance Hall, and the sum was handed to him, and a memorandum to that effect made on the receipt. On Saturday last Gray applied for and received another \$10, thus leaving in Mr. Snelling's hands a balance of \$30, and this amount Mr. Snelling still possesses. In all probability the receipt referred to above has been found amongst the effects of the deceased. In common fairness to Mr. Snelling we feel bound to make this correction, and exceedingly regret that the error should have found its way into our columns.

A SPECIAL Meeting of Justices of the Peace was held at the Magistracy yesterday for the purpose of considering applications for spirit licences for the year 1882-3. There were present:—Mr. H. E. Wodehouse (in the chair), Messrs. W. M. Deane and C. V. Creagh. The first application which came up for consideration was that of John Juster of the "Liverpool Arms," who wished to have the name of the house changed to "Central Hotel." The license was granted without opposition; and the name permitted to be changed as desired. For the "Welcome Tavern," a license was granted to Joaquim Gomes without opposition. In the case of Dorabjee Nowrojee's application for a license for the Hongkong Hotel, the Captain Superintendent of Police represented that the means of exit from the hotel were unsatisfactory since the closing of the door leading into Peddar's Street, undue obstruction being caused in Queen's Road by chairs and vehicles being attracted to one door only. It was proposed by Mr. Deane, seconded by Mr. Creagh, and carried, that the consideration of this license be postponed until the 21st inst. for the purpose of enquiring into the alleged necessity for an additional entrance to the hotel from Peddar's Street.—The applications of John Olsen of the "National Hotel," Louis Kirchmann of the "Land we live in," Henry Birch of the "Stag Hotel," the license being held on behalf of Mr. Cook, John Humby of the "London Inn," Frederick Biggers of the "City of Hamburg Hotel," Frederick Asmus Linde of the "Star Hotel," John Robinson White of the Sailors' Home, and Christian Frederick Wm. Peterson of the "German Tavern," were all granted without opposition, the name of the "City of Hamburg Hotel" being allowed to be changed to "Hamburg Hotel." The meeting was adjourned till the 21st instant, when the application for a license for the Hongkong Hotel will again come up.

A RATHER curious case came before Captain Thomsett at the Police Court this morning. At about 10 p.m. on the 6th instant the *Kam-hing* junk, bound for Swatow with 124 bags saltpetre and some rice, was boarded, when off Lap-aspang, by several men from a steam launch painted black, which came alongside. The boarding-party took the junk people down below, closing the hatch, and took away the whole of the saltpetre, valued at \$347.50, and some clothing, &c., besides, \$47 in silver and a jacket and pair of shoes belonging to the owner of the saltpetre, who was on board the junk. The junk after this returned to Hongkong, and yesterday the master saw a cargo boat alongside the Praya with a lot of saltpetre on board, which he thought was that taken from his junk. He observed two men on the Praya, about 400 yards off, whom he recognized as having been of the party who boarded the junk, and calling a constable, had them arrested. A third man was arrested on board the cargo boat. When taken to the Central Station, the first defendant, described as a servant, told Inspector Rivers that he belonged to the Chinese cruiser *Weng Ho*, and that he had boarded the junk between Ling Ting and Cheung Chow, took away the saltpetre, and went with it to Sam-sui-poo, taking it to Victoria yesterday in a cargo boat for the purpose of selling it. Inspector Rivers took complainant and defendant to Capt. Deane, who directed the latter to be charged with the unlawful possession of the saltpetre, which was seized by the police and taken to the station. The three men in custody, two of whom are described as shopmen, were stated to have been armed with swords when they boarded the junk. A seaman on board the junk stated, in reply to Mr. Holmes, who appeared for the defendant, that he believed the launch belonged to the third defendant, one of those described as a shopman, and that he had seen it at Yau-ma-tai before. The case was remanded till the 15th instant, each of the defendants being allowed out on bail in two sureties of \$150 each.

We observe that the Government of Portugal, in view of possibly important events occurring in Morocco, has decided to replace its Consul-General by a Minister Plenipotentiary. The first Minister to Morocco is Senhor Collaço.

As "Fire Special" of the leading journal, we paid a visit this morning to the Man Mo Temple in Hollywood Road, with the view of obtaining an introduction to Hwa Kwang, the Taoist god of fire, whose *fete* is being celebrated to-day, our object being to arrange with his godship to give us early "tips" whenever he purposed starting on the war-path, so that we might be first on the spot when the blaze burst out, and thus leave our sluggish rivals of the feeble prints in Wyndham Street well to the rear, a position to which they are pretty frequently relegated. We took an English speaking Chinese friend with us, in order that the introduction might be carried out with all due formalities. Our friend, however, after hunting all over the Joss house and its precincts for a considerable time, came back to us with the mournful intelligence that Hwa Kwang was not visible to-day, the weather not being sufficiently propitious for his godship's descent from his comfortable quarters topside; so we could only silently grieve over the untoward circumstance which prevented our becoming personally acquainted with the deity who has so often disturbed our Sabbath repose. However, as we could not see the "gentleman" himself, we thought the next best thing we could do would be to interview his retainers. Two of these fellows, of gigantic stature, guard the portals of the temple, one on each side. To the right of the dark-whiskered fellow, as you enter, stands a figure of a white steed, jack-ass size, gaily caparisoned, a *deco* in rather unhorsey habiliments looking after him. On the left of the grey-whiskered fellow, another gigantic figure is seated, the master of the feast, with sundry attendants around him, and what a paunch this individual has! We would back him to put away a good sized roasted pig under his "weskiet" at a meal. To the left of the master of the feast is to be seen a figure of a Chinese Superintendent of Police, with four luktongs at hand ready to obey tremblingly his slightest nod. Grave, dignified, and stern this Celestial *chef-de-policie* certainly looks, and we think he would make a valuable Assistant Superintendent for the native branch of our local force. Inside the temple numbers of devout worshippers of both sexes were to be seen "chin chinning." Hwa Kwang, who really ought, after this, to give us a long respite from his conflagratory raids, as we are well-nigh tired of writing up his godship's ill-natured doings. The temple is got up in most gorgeous style to-day, having undergone quite a transformation since we visited it yesterday, and when lit up to-night, as it will be at seven o'clock, will be well worthy a visit.

"THE BUFFS" AMATEUR DRAMA-TIC CORPS AT THE CITY HALL.

The Buffs Amateur Dramatic Corps made their second appearance in Hongkong at the Theatre Royal, City Hall, last night, in Tom Taylor's well-known and somewhat hackneyed farce "A Blighted Being," and Henry J. Byron's once famous burlesque "The Lady of Lyons." The performance, which was under the immediate patronage of H. E. the Administrator, and H. E. General Sargent, C. B., was for the benefit of the widow and children of Mr. Jas. Boyd, late of the Commissariat department, whose death en route to North Borneo we announced a few weeks ago, and attracted a capital audience, the whole of the dress circle being filled, whilst the stalls and body of the theatre were extensively patronised notwithstanding the unfavorable weather. His Excellency the Administrator, accompanied by Mrs. Marsh, Mrs. Wiles, and Miss Thornton, and attended by his *Alde-de-camp*, Major Hamilton of the Buffs, arrived punctually at 9 o'clock, the band, which was under the leadership of Mr. H. Quinn, playing the national anthem as the Government House party entered their box, the audience as usual rising en masse.

After an overture—Gounod's *Mirella*—had been played in excellent style by the fine band of the Buffs, the curtain rose on the "Watering place scene" in "A Blighted Being." As we presume that the conventional plot of this antediluvian dramatic relic is well known to all theatre goers, we will not waste our own time and our readers' patience by spinning out a lot of unnecessary twaddle. The farce, faithfully copied from the French, is a long way from being a bad one; in fact, when played by skilful professionals it is rather good than otherwise, and frequently meets with a greater amount of success than its intrinsic merits as a literary production fairly warrant. As we presume our friends of the Buffs desire to be honestly criticised and not ridiculously "battered"—with the feeble trash in this morning's *Maudslayi*—candour compels us to own that last night's representation of "A Blighted Being" was only a qualified success. As customary, giving *place aux dames*, we have to congratulate Mrs. Blake on the immense improvement she has made since we last saw her "fetting her weary hour." Although amateurish to a degree, this lady's *Susan Spenser* was not without good points, the actress displaying plenty of confidence and a good deal of intelligence. Captain Newnham Davis looked the jolly ship's doctor, Ned Spenser, but he hardly "dressed" the part to our liking, nor did he quite realise all that might have been expected from such a promising amateur. A good word can fairly be said for the very humorous impersonation of the waiter, Cummings, by Mr. H. Somerset, who has a capital idea of low comedy, and attends to stage business as if to the manner born. Mr. Somerset will do better in a more trying part. The funny Irish apothecary of Mr. Bunbury was a feature of the performance. Although lacking in flash there was a genuine heartiness about the O'Rafferty, which, coupled with his rich brogue and humorous sayings, could not fail to favorably impress an audience determined to show their appreciation of everything on the slightest pretence. Of course, the success of the piece mainly depended upon Mr. Holmes, who appeared as Job Wren, "A Blighted Being," and we are glad to be able to say that this excellent actor came through a trying ordeal triumphantly. The representation was unquestionably fairly in many

